STATEMENT OF PAMELA M. PARKER CANDIDATE FOR AT-LARGE MEMBER OF CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Public service has been the defining theme of my 25 years of legal practice. Throughout my career in private practice, I have always made it a high priority to give back to the community. I am proud to say that during my four years as a Lawyer Representative, I have helped to organize and participate in programs designed not only to enlighten and entertain judges and lawyers, but also to raise their awareness of the concerns of the public they serve, and at the same time, to demystify our legal system so that the public can understand the role and importance of the courts in our society. I am running for one of the At-Large positions with the Conference Executive Committee so that I may continue these educational outreach efforts.

I very much enjoy working with people, brainstorming about ideas for programs, and putting those ideas into operation. As a Lawyer Rep, I have helped to organize a wide variety of activities that have involved the legal and non-legal communities. These have included court-sponsored high school art and essay contests focusing on the benefits and responsibilities of citizenship, and moot court opportunities to allow "hands on" experience in court. I have hosted presentations at local elementary schools by judges who use a challenging video to help introduce the children to the criminal justice system. I also have been pleased to help organize and participate in a number of programs for judges and attorneys on various legal topics, including the Class Action Fairness Act of 1995 (for the 2005 and 2006 Southern District Conferences and an ABTL program) and on judicial ethics (for the 2007 Conference).

In addition, I have honed my organization skills through extensive work with a number of professional organizations, including the San Diego Legal Aid Society, of which I am the Board President-Elect, and the San Diego Lawyers Club, where I co-chair a committee that engages in hands-on projects that seek to improve the lives of women and children in our area.

My legal practice has varied greatly over the course of my career. For most of the past 16 years, I have been a member of the Lerach Coughlin (formerly Milberg Weiss) firm in San Diego, where I have litigated a diverse range of cases, including environmental, consumer and human rights class actions. My practice is now focused mostly on appellate matters.

I believe that I will bring ideas, energy, and commitment to the Conference Executive Committee. I have very much enjoyed the camaraderie and interaction with judges and other Lawyer Reps over the past few years. I look forward to the opportunity to develop interesting and educational programs, and continue outreach efforts to the larger community.